

HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

DIVISION OF FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES

Notice of Administrative Correction and Extension of Comment Period

Newborn Screening Program

Newborn Hearing Screening

Proposed Repeal and New Rules: N.J.A.C. 8:19-1

Take notice that the Department of Health and Senior Services has discovered errors in the text of the notice of proposed repeal and new rules at N.J.A.C. 8:19-1 published in the November 15, 2004 issue of the New Jersey Register at 36 N.J.R. 5058(a).

At 36 N.J.R. at 5059, the Summary and the Social Impact refer to proposed amendments relating to the imposition of penalties for failure to comply with reporting obligations imposed under the chapter. The Department is not proposing amendments that would impose penalties for failure to report. Therefore, the discussion of penalties was inappropriate. The Department is correcting the Summary at 36 N.J.R. at 5059 to delete the second sentence of the sixth paragraph discussing proposed new N.J.A.C. 8:19-1.6. The Department is correcting the Social Impact at 36 N.J.R. at 5059 to delete the third sentence of second paragraph.

To provide interested persons with adequate opportunity to review these revisions, the Department is providing a 30-day extension of the comment period on the notice of proposal. Written comments on the notice of proposal may be submitted by February 13, 2005 to:

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Special Child Health and Early Intervention Services
Division of Family Health Services
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Trenton, NJ 08625-0364

This notice, as it relates to an administrative correction, is published pursuant to N.J.A.C. 12:30-2.7.

Full text of the corrected paragraphs of the Summary and the Social Impact as they should have appeared in the November 15, 2004 issue of the New Jersey Register, follows:

Summary

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N.J.A.C. 8:19-1.6 discusses reporting via the Electronic Birth Certificate (EBC) Registration System.

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Social Impact

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The overall reaction to the new rules should be positive since universal newborn screening has become an accepted standard of care throughout the health care community. The birthing facilities are familiar with the hearing screening reporting elements of the Electronic Birth Certificate Registration System, the risk factors associated with late onset hearing loss, the need for

audiologic follow-up testing and the importance of reminding families of the need for follow-up hearing screening/testing services. Pediatricians are familiar with the national EHDI standards through the American Academy of Pediatrics. By the very nature of their profession, audiologists are well acquainted with the importance of early detection and treatment of hearing loss in children and the recommended clinical guidelines accepted by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and the American Academy of Audiology.